2566-105A VMD:KGS:hf

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2768

In re Application of

David C. CUSHING

Serial No. 09/480,991

Filed: January 11, 2000

For: AUTOMATED BATCH AUCTIONS

IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONTINUOUS FINANCIAL

MARKETS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the subject application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, line 20, insert --by-- before "U.S.";

Page 27, Lines 33-34, delete "price discovery period" and insert therefor --order execution period--.

Remarks

The above amendments do not add any new matter, and are made solely to correct typographical and grammatical errors in the application as filed. Adequate support for the above amendments